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PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Tapani VUORINEN

Group Art Unit: 1731

Serial Number: 09/674,289

Examiner: M. Alvo

Filed: October 30, 2000

For: METHOD OF PRODUCING A FIBER PRODUCT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)

RECEIVED  
MAR 25 2003  
TC 1700

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

March 21, 2003

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. These documents have been cited in an Office Action in a corresponding Japanese application. One copy of each of the documents, the Japanese Office Action and the translation of the Japanese Office Action is attached.

No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the last of (1) issuance of a first official action on the merits and (2) expiration of the three month period following filing of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) of the above-

U.S. Patent Appln. S.N. 09/674,289  
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

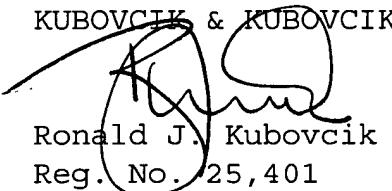
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captioned application.

Please note that the documents are not in the English language. However, the concise explanation of the relevance of the documents required under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 is believed to be satisfied by submission of English language abstracts thereof. Please also note that an English language translation is provided for document FA.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 111833 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments: PTO-1449  
                  3 Documents  
                  Japanese Office Action